

Lt. Col. ERIC W. CORMACK, long interested in the C.C.F., has been nominated as a candidate for the Army in the servicemen's election which takes place between January 8th and the 20th, when a candidate will be chosen from each of the services to sit in the Alberta legislature. At the time he was nominated by a representative group of officers and men, he was in a hospital in Belgium suffering from wounds but is now back with his regiment, the 8th Canadian Light Anti-Aircraft, of which he is the Commanding Officer. Prior to enlisting Lt. Col. Cormack farmed at Alix in the Lacombe constituency, where Mrs. Cormack, a member of the C.C.F., still resides.

Another candidate prominently associated with the C.C.F. before enlisting is P/O Harold E. Bronson, an Air Force nominee. A navigation officer who has just about completed his tour of operations, P/O Bronson has been in the R.C.A.F. for three and a half years. A farmer at Cherhill, he is a former president of the Lac Ste. Anne C.C.F. Constituency Association.

Many C.C.F.'ers have signified their intention of writing their relatives and friends in the services urging them to give their support to Lt. Col. Cormack for the Army and P/O Bronson for the R.C.A.F.



## PERSONAL STUFF BY E. E. R.

TWENTY-FIVE years ago a newspaper was started in Edmonton called the "Edmonton Free Press". It was published by agreement between an advertising man and the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council. It ran for some time under the editorial direction of a journalist who had turned school teacher and was glad of the chance to keep his hand in at newspaper work. Those were turbulent days in the Canadian Labor movement and the Trades Council decided that it would only go on with its endorsement of the Free Press if it could appoint its own editor. I had been doing Labor comment for the Edmonton Bulletin as a sideline and was asked to take on the job of editing the Free Press. Later the Alberta Federation of Labor adopted the paper as its organ and as secretary of that body I continued as editor. With its entry into the provincial field the name of the paper was changed to "Alberta Labor News" by which name it was known until late in 1935. With such contributing writers as the late C. L. Gibbs, Dr. W. H. Alexander and others the Labor News became well and favorably known.

In 1932 I found myself in the dual position of publisher and editor of the Labor News. It was this that made it possible to suggest to the Alberta Federation of Labor in 1935 that the agreement under which the paper was published should be cancelled, to enable us to produce it as an independent weekly with a somewhat broader appeal than could be made.

Please Turn to Page Two

# PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

VOL. XXV, No. 9

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, DECEMBER 23, 1944

\$1.00 Per Year; 5 cents a Copy

## Down Payment on Peace

### Hitler No. 1 On Blacklist of CCF M.P.'s

Refused to Allow War Crisis  
To Degrade Into Political  
Brawl

SELF-RIGHTEOUS TORIES

Acceptance of C.C.F. Amend-  
ment to King Resolution.  
A Great Triumph

By ALEX MACDONALD,  
C.C.F. Parliamentary Secretary

OTTAWA—Things are quieter now on Parliament Hill, offices and corridors are mostly deserted, and the correspondents of the Press Gallery are getting to bed at a decent hour again, some of them at any rate. The great reinforcement crisis has come and gone.

The population of Parliament Hill, secretaries, reporters, guards, caretakers and others, feel that the C.C.F. group conducted itself in a sincere and forthright manner. The C.C.F. members, to their great credit, refused to allow a critical war crisis to degenerate into a political brawl. They took the position that they were the responsible representatives of the people making the war effort, and that it was

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### C.C.F. Mayor Elected In Fort William, Ont.

Polling a comfortable majority over his two opponents, Garfield Anderson, C.C.F. member of the Ontario Legislature for Fort William, was re-elected Mayor of his home town for a two-year term in the elections held on Monday.

There were 3,410 votes cast in his favor as against 1,222 for Alexander Anderson, president of the Fort William Trades and Labor Council, and 1,073 for Dr. B. C. Hardiman, a former mayor who has also been chairman of the finance and board of education committees.

### Four C.C.F. Men Are Elected in Winnipeg

WINNIPEG—The C.C.F. succeeded in electing Ald. Jas. Simpkin, veteran Labor representative, to the City Council, from Ward Two, in the civic elections held last month, and A. N. Robertson to the School Board. The latter had over 7,000 first choices. In Ward Three, Ald. E. A. Bowman was re-elected David Orlinow was elected to the School Board with a substantial vote. Although making a good showing in Ward One, stronghold of the CEC, none of the C.C.F. candidates succeeded in piling up enough first choices to ensure election. Ald. Lloyd Stinson was beaten by a narrow margin in the "Glasco landslide." In the mayoralty contest John Queen was defeated by the present incumbent, Mayor Coulter.

### FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL



Courtesy Appreciate America, Inc.

## NO ROD-RIDING FOR THE RETURNED MEN THIS TIME, WILLIAMS TELLS THE CCF

Canadian Legion Officer Says  
They Have Right to Expect  
Home and Decent Job  
PENSION PROBLEMS

"There'll be no rod-riding for the boys returning from this war. Those men who are willing to lay down their lives for their country also have the courage to fight for a square deal for themselves and their families when they return," W. J. Williams, M.L.A., Secretary-Manager of the Edmonton Branch of the Canadian Legion told the Edmonton C.C.F. at a public meeting in the IOOF Hall on Tuesday of last week. Mr. Williams is a veteran of the First Great War and also served overseas in the early part of this war.

These men don't want any bands to greet them when they return but they have, every right to expect a home and a job that will provide them with a decent standard of living, he said. The boys are coming back in comparatively small numbers now but let them fall out of work at the conclusion of hostilities, let three or four thousand of them get together under those conditions, and "see what happens", he warned. He told the meeting that already there were 300 returned men out of

Please Turn to Page Six

KINGSTON, Jamaica.

The Labor Party gained control of the Jamaica legislature in the first election under the colony's new constitution. The Labor group headed by Alexander Bustamante, trade union leader, gained 23 of the 32 seats in the legislature.

## ASK DEMOCRATIC POLICY TOWARD LIBERATED PEOPLE

Calling upon the Canadian government to press for the immediate formulation of a proper United Nations policy to secure the establishment of democratic institutions in all liberated countries, the fol-

(Please Turn to Page Eight)

## Edmonton C.C.F. Concert, Dance, in IOOF Hall, Dec. 29

Members and friends of the C.C.F. are invited to a social evening in the IOOF Hall on Friday, December 29 when cards, dancing and other entertainment will be featured on the program. Cards and music will be provided from 8:15 p.m. to 9:30 o'clock with community singing led by Jack Dennistoun. Miss Diane Elliott, a member of the C.C.F. music group will play a violin solo and the violin quartette will also give selections. Miss Eleanor Bowerman will sing accompanied by her sister.

Refreshments will be served at 9:30 with dancing including square dance numbers, from 10 to 12 p.m. Cards will be available for those who do not wish to dance.

Mrs. J. Kinski, social convener for the Edmonton Constituency, and Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe, social convener of the Women's C.C.F. Club, are in charge of the arrangements.

## Unemployment Arch Enemy — Coldwell

Dumbarton Oaks Not Perfect  
Because Reflection of an  
Imperfect World

SPEAKS IN NEW YORK

Nations Must Keep Up Other  
Payments—Jobs, Best  
Peace Guarantee

"International peace begins at home. Nations living prosperously and freely-organized in their political, social and economic life, will never break the peace or spawn Hitlers of their own. If there is an arch-enemy of peace in the world today it is the recurrent menace of mass unemployment." Thus spoke M. J. Coldwell, M.P., CCF National Leader, when he addressed the American Labor Conference on International Affairs at New York on Saturday. His address was broadcast from a New York station.

"Dumbarton Oaks is not perfect because it is the reflection of an (Please Turn to Page Seven)

## Only 488 Votes Separated Alsbury From Mayoralty

VANCOUVER—In one of the closest mayoralty contests in Vancouver's history, Mayor J. W. Cornett was elected to a third consecutive term over Tom Alsbury, C.C.F. candidate. Only 488 votes separates the two men. The Non-Partisan candidate, Alderman Worthington, ran third.

Arnold Webster was re-elected to the Park Board heading the polls at the time this dispatch was sent out. One of his C.C.F. running mates, F. A. Armstrong, was also assured of election.

Returns indicated that the "Non-Partisan" Liberal - Conservative endorsed aldermanic candidates were all assured elections. Independents all trailed far behind the second place C.C.F. candidates for Council.

## Ask Aircraft Plant Equipment be Kept For Returned Men

Registering its opposition to any proposal to dispose of the plant equipment of Aircraft Repair Ltd. to private firms or individuals, the Edmonton C.C.F. at its last meeting instructed its executive to appoint a committee to investigate the disposition of such equipment. It was pointed out that the plant was built with government funds and the meeting urged that it be retained for the employment of returned men in useful work and not be sold to private firms at fire sale rates.

## Purse Returned But Money Taken

Mrs. J. M. Christofferson, the blind C.C.F. member who recently lost her purse containing a sum of money and valuable papers, now reports that the purse has been returned to her through the mail minus \$15 in cash as well as a cheque.

# A Report to the FARMERS on CANADA PACKERS LIMITED

By DAVE HANNAIL,  
C.P.A. Special Correspondent

Canadian farmers and ranchers who watched their stock die of starvation during the early thirties have been grimly amused during the last few weeks by huge advertisements appearing in farm newspapers which attempt to show that Canada Packers Limited, a beneficial organization which should not be nationalized.

The gigantic meat packing concern has been issuing its ads under the somewhat misleading heading, "Report to Shareholders," and according to the company, it does not earn exorbitant profits at the expense of the farmer. On the whole, infer the Canada Packers' ads, the company is the farmer's friend. In the light of certain misrepresentations contained in the company's report, the C.P.A. has investigated the background of the report and this article is intended to show our findings.

The most authoritative report on the meat packing industry in Canada is found in the mass of material released by the Royal Commission on Price Spreads of 1935. As the commission was appointed during the Tory Regime of former Premier R. B. Bennett—the findings of the commission cannot be considered as prejudiced against companies like Canada Packers.

## Near Monopoly

The first astounding fact brought out by the Commission's report is that Canada Packers Limited, had, by the early thirties, attained either a monopoly or a near monopoly in the meat packing industry. And the report also clearly indicates that Canada Packers used its monopolistic position to protect its profits successfully during the worst years of the depression at the expense of the farmers and the consuming public.

To illustrate the commanding position which Canada Packers gained in the industry, the Royal Commission report shows that in 1938, Canada Packers and Swift Canadian Company Limited, handled 85 per cent of the total production of all Canadian meat packers. And of the total, Canada Packers alone held 59 per cent of the total business, while Swift Canadian did only 26 per cent of the business.

## Cartel System

Under ordinary circumstances, Swift Canadian might compete

with Canada Packers and thus create a condition of free enterprise. But this was not, and is not, the case. The former chief buyer for Canada Packers in the Toronto market told the Royal Commission in 1935 that competition was carefully controlled by the leading companies by means of an agreement which virtually created a cartel system. The former buyer—A. MacKenzie—testified that each morning all of the Canada Packers buyers would meet to determine their price policy for the day. MacKenzie said he would then telephone Swift's and ask what they intended to do. In this way, the two companies would reach an understanding on prices. It was also understood that Swift was to buy 32 per cent of the supply in the market, while Canada Packers was to buy the remainder. Swift's admitted freely that if either got ahead of its quota, its buyers would slacken their purchases until after the other company caught up.

MacKenzie's testimony clearly reveals that competitive bidding was restricted or eliminated and prices were kept down. But the important part of the company official's testimony was a statement that—if the practice of consultation on prices had not prevailed, producers would have received from fifty cents to one dollar more per hundred pounds for their cattle.

The Packing companies claim that it was necessary during the depression to hold down prices in order to keep going at all. But it must be remembered that the farmer was taking a terrific loss during the depression.

## Sitting Pretty

Consequently, the large companies might be expected to stand some loss as well. But this was not the case. From 1929 to 1932, sales fell by 50.9 per cent—but the return to the primary producer fell by 56.8 per cent. This showed that the livestock producers suffered much more severely than the packing companies. From this, it may be safely inferred that the packing industry has been better able to protect its margin than has the farmer or rancher. Furthermore, Canada Packers never suffered a loss during a single year of the depression. Although the profits of Canada Packers, for instance, fell from 16.0 per cent in 1929, to 3.9 per cent in 1931, stockholders still were sitting pretty. And the aver-

age profit of Canada Packers from 1929 to 1933 was 8.9 per cent.

The monopolistic control of Canada Packers is illustrated by the fact that the five big companies all suffered small losses in 1931 and 1932 and chalked up an average over the five years of only 3.3 per cent profits. The other companies mentioned were Swift Canadian, Burns and Company, Wilsil, Limited, and Gainers, Limited. These figures again are taken from the Price Spreads commission report. According to the Commonwealth survey, the manner in which these results have been achieved by the packing companies has a direct relation to the monopolistic character of the structure of the industry. The dominant position of Canada Packers and Swift Canadian, with extensive storage facilities and control of a great proportion of the slaughtering equipment in the country, has undoubtedly secured for them some measure of control over both live stock prices and selling prices for their product.

## Nice Going

Another interesting angle on the position of Canada Packers is indicated in a report from the company which showed that the rate of profit on Canada Packers invested capital averaged 10.59 per cent during a seven year period in which five years of the worst depression in our history occurred. That's the real significance of the company's profits—not as a percentage of sales, but as a percentage on the capital invested.

In order to more clearly indicate the situation, a table showing the return on capital investment is shown:

## ADJUSTED NET INCOME

Fiscal Year ended	Average Invested Capital	Amount	Pctge. to invested capital	Pctge. to total sales
March 30/34	\$11,928,282.79	\$1,309,064.44	11.73	2.67
" 30/33	11,637,494.49	634,875.94	5.46	1.35
" 31/32	11,634,800.77	449,637.00	3.86	1.64
" 26/31	11,578,447.09	863,844.44	7.46	1.01
" 27/30	11,056,261.45	1,771,698.85	16.02	1.55
" 27/29	11,079,379.84	1,433,434.17	14.45	1.49
Period from August 15/27 to March 28/28	8,605,767.12	1,103,766.60	20.52	1.47
Total	76,359,342.55	7,656,321.44		
Average	10,908,477.51	1,155,671.16	10.59	1.43

## 15% on Investment

As a percentage on invested capital, net profits have averaged more than 15 per cent during 1939 to 1944, compared to 10.59 per cent during 1929 to 1934—and 16 per cent as an average is an exorbitant return on invested capital in an industry of this kind. This last shows how much the packers have profited by the war. The company makes a great deal of the fact in its advertisement that profits are only 1.06 per cent of total sales. However, it carefully avoids the facts clearly shown above that its profits average more than 15 per cent on its investment and far larger than this when other factors are taken into account.

The Company's statement to stockholders says at one point:

"It is hard to think of an industry less suited for nationalization. The objection which comes to mind first is the danger of loss from spoilage if a government organization were handling daily tens of millions of pounds of perishable food. The danger would arise because the chief safeguard would be removed, by reason of which such losses are avoided. That safeguard is competition."

The Company's statement might bear more weight if it hadn't shown above that for all practical purposes, there is no real competition in the meat packing industry. We repeat that Canada Packers alone controls 59 per cent of the industry's sales, with Swift Canadian, Canada Packers controls a dominating 85 per cent—and these two companies operate so closely together that they can fix prices in a monopolistic manner injurious to the primary producer.

## EDMONTON'S BARGAIN STORE

For every member of every family.

## ARMY & NAVY

DEPARTMENT STORE

"We Accept Provincial Treasury Vouchers"

And these figures come not from our files, but from the report of a Royal Commission set up by a Tory government in Canada!

## Ridiculous Assertion

However, to continue with the company's declaration concerning "one danger of spoilage if a government organization were handling millions of pounds of perishable foods." Well, the only answer to that, is that our experience during the war clearly disproves the ridiculous assertion. For the government, through special import and export boards, is handling millions of pounds of perishable foods and is doing it on a scale and degree of efficiency that private enterprise could never hope to do. It might be remembered that spoilage occurred mainly under "private enterprise" during the thirties, when farmers had to let their fruit rot on the trees, had to dump their milk into the rivers and had to kill off their livestock, for want of decent markets.

The whole situation boils down

## PERSONAL STUFF

(Continued from Page One)

with an official trade union organ. The name changed to "The People's Weekly" and William Irvine became associated with us as an editor. Under the three names which marked its development, the paper has not missed a single issue—no record, I think, for such a publication in Canada. Except for a few months at the beginning I have been its editor. It has been a constant and exciting spare-time chore for a quarter of a century. But the host of friends gained in many parts of Alberta and Canada, and even across the sea, through the work, have been more than ample compensation for any drudgery involved in the task.

And now the paper is entering another phase. It becomes with the next issue the official organ of the C.C.F. in Alberta and will be published under the direction of a board whose names will appear on the editorial page. From now on opinions expressed editorially will be those of the C.C.F. This does not mean that everything appearing in the paper will be official, or necessarily to be accepted as a C.C.F. statement. Those of us who write under our own names will do so as individuals expressing our own views, subject only to the censorship of common sense and our devotion to the cause which the paper is published to serve. No one could require a wider field in which to write. The C.C.F. is a great people's movement with interests as wide as those of humanity itself. The principles it embraces have no artificial barrier of race or creed or nationality. Its aim is nothing less than a world in which the earth's illimitable resources may in very truth become the heritage of all mankind.


If there is anything I should like to say to readers of The People's Weekly in this last message under the old auspices, it is that you should feel from the beginning the sense of ownership which is now the responsibility of C.C.F. members and supporters. The difference between failure and great success of a venture like this is one of personal interest, or lack of it. The circulation of the paper, and therefore its sphere of influence can be doubled in no time if you and other readers perform the comparatively small task of getting one new subscription to your own publication. And so we say goodbye and hello. The People's Weekly is dead—long live The People's Weekly!

## LUMBER

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My sincere Christmas wish is that the gallant men and women now serving their country may soon be united with their families and friends in the joys of a victorious future.

**Reddy Kilowatt**  
Your Electric Servant

**CALGARY POWER CO. LIMITED**  
*Serving Alberta*



## The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and reserves the right to curtail letters exceeding 300 words in length.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Publication Board under whose direction The People's Weekly will be issued after January 1st, has expressed a desire to have more letters from readers appear in the paper. In order to provide for as many as possible each week the Board has ruled that letters must not exceed 250 words. (This is approximately the number of words used in an editorial). Instructions from the Board are very definite that no letters are to be published if they exceed the limit set. The idea is to get more letters from more readers.

mentality. No, we are all idealists, more or less, only it's deplorable when we hitch our wagon to a shadow instead of a star. If you can send me anything about this 3,000 miles of road I should be grateful.

My knowledge of roads is limited to deplorable dirt roads with culverts missing and pitfalls of various kinds, and the highways seem to be either rough or just gravelled, both dangerous anyway. Will someone better posted kindly send me information as to roads or mail direct to: W. J. Parker, Box 1411, P.O., Auckland, New Zealand.

EDITH MONRO.

Arvilla.

### PAGE MR. FALLOW!

Editor, The People's Weekly.

Sir: Your readers may be interested in the following extract from a letter which I received from my cousin in New Zealand:

"Many thanks for your cutting about Social Credit and notes in your letter. Some people here are quite dilly about S.C. and the fantastic stories they relate about the happy state of Alberta are staggering. Strange to say they are supported by what purports to be Canadian newspapers, in the face of which they are hard to refute. For instance in your blessed land of financial grace we hear you built 3,000 miles of the finest road in Canada and it did not cost you a penny piece. It was all done by the magic of Social Credit, no debt to be paid off, no loan to be subscribed to, just the people's credit; so simple, 3,000 miles of road without cost."

"Then, of course, you all have an annual dividend derived from the surplus production of your fertile country placed in the hands of the community by the arch wizard, Douglas. And they believe it and spend money preaching and printing it. The splendid faith of the people—I will not say juvenile

### WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

Editor People's Weekly.

Sir: In The Journal of November 27, we see that the Calgary Power Co., will owe The City of Edmonton some 60,000,000 KWH. of electric energy by the end of the year, the Commissioners will report to the council Monday night in answer to a query made by Alderman Bisset. This power has been supplied by the plant to the Calgary Power Co. under the stand-by agreement entered into by the city in 1940.

Gentlemen, is it not part of this power that is now being sold to the residents of Jasper Place, by the Calgary Power Co. in competition with our civic plant, and at a lower rate than our civic plant was prepared to meet?

Now from The City of Edmonton's Annual Report and Financial Statement 1943, p. 48, we see it costs the ratepayers of this city 74¢ for every KWH. of electric energy produced in our civic-owned plant, and if some 60,000,000 KWH. of this power is turned over to the Calgary Power Co. it represents a cash total of \$450,000 of Edmonton rate-payers' dollars.

May I ask our city administration just why they demand that we

## LOYAL EDMONTON CHAPLAIN IS CCF CANDIDATE, MAN.

WINNIPEG (CPA)—Major Edgar J. Bailey, Chaplain of the Edmonton Loyal Regiment, serving in Italy, was nominated as the C.C.F. candidate for the federal constituency of Lisgar in southern Manitoba, at a convention held at Manitou, December 11, 1944.

Before joining the forces, Major Bailey was minister of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Winnipeg. He went overseas in 1940. He was with the assault troops who landed in Sicily in July 1943, and also with the assault troops who landed in Italy on September 3rd of the



same year. He has been with his men through every major engagement in the Mediterranean theatre,

Edmonton rate-payers provide \$450,000 of the working capital of the Calgary Power Co. Wherein lies—and who receives the plum?

Is this chiefly the reason why all Edmonton workers and other low income families are compelled to pay 5¢ per KWH. for their needs in electric current? Of course this only amounts to a slight spread of 67¢ per cent between the cost of production and the price charged the poorer consumer.

Gentlemen, are these the results procured after 2,000 years of Christian endeavor, democratic institutions and free enterprise? If so a radical change of approach and policy to the problem of the people is imperative.

Yours for progress,

H. E. CARR.

8730 84th Ave.

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### H. ZELLA SPENCER

I SEEM to have been like the little girl who thought Christmas over-long in coming and tried to hurry it along. Those of you who read my letter will possibly remember I extended my good wishes for the season in my last letter instead of waiting for this Christmas issue and joining my good wishes with those of others.

But of course I want to try and make excuses for what I did. Possibly it is because this year, as in the past few, we seem to have been discussing Christmas ways and means for some time. As in almost every community, parcels are being sent Overseas to our boys who would, oh so gladly be with us for the season. In most communities there are discussions as to what parcels are to be sent and how the money is to be raised to buy the gifts. By the way, it seems to be one occasion where there is no protesting about those of us all working together that all of them may have equal opportunity of receiving benefit.

While there are many who do

and has given them significant leadership in drafting their own ideas about rehabilitation and post-war reconstruction.

Bailey was largely responsible for the action taken by the "Edmontons" in presenting a brief on post-war Canada to Col. Ralston during one of his visits to Italy. The significance of this move was hailed by Time magazine and Bailey was given high praise for his work in many periodicals. His interest in the C.C.F. stems very largely from his desire to help the men overseas build a new Canada when victory has been won, although it is also true that his interest can be traced to his background. Born in Wales, his father was a coal miner, and Bailey as a boy likewise worked in the mines. Later he became connected with the co-operative movement in his native land, and developed keen interest in social problems.

Major Bailey first came to Canada in 1928. He attended Brandon College, where he was a contemporary of Tommy Douglas, now Premier of Saskatchewan, Stanley Knowles, M.P. for Winnipeg North Centre, Wilbert Stevens, C.C.F. federal candidate for Wetaskiwin, and others. He took an active part in debating, both at Brandon and later at McMaster University in Hamilton. He is also an accomplished soloist and reader, having been heard over the B.B.C. when he was in England with the Canadian troops.

His candidacy is of course subject to Bailey's acceptance, but on the basis of correspondence with him it is believed that this will be received very shortly. Bailey is a member of Woodsworth C.C.F. Unit, in Winnipeg North Centre.

not want Christmas rushed on earlier than usual, although there are some who are eagerly awaiting the home-coming of absent members who will make no protest but will do all they can to speed the day, there are many who would like to prolong the season in some ways. It might, to be sure, be rather a strain on the stomach and on the purse if the feasting and giving-of-gifts features of the season were continued. But how much happier the world would be if the general spirit of Christmas with its kindness and friendliness and its goodwill and its working that all may participate in it, were to be continued! If that spirit were to be instilled into all phases of our life, into our whole social and political life, could not more be accomplished? Not that all differences of opinion would be swept away or that all would see alike, but a greater tolerance and a greater desire for good will among men would be in evidence.

The other day I noted a comment of Laski's about the Soviets and their political attitude and he said "Every leader must be either a hero or a scoundrel". I wondered, as I read it, if we were not all tarred with the same brush to a certain degree. Is there not a tendency to make heroes of those who are our leaders and paint others as scoundrels? True, they may be one or the other but seldom to the degree painted by political friend or foe.

Would it not tend to greater accomplishment if we devoted our energies constructively in the spirit of good will and tolerance? Would it not add to life for ourselves and for those with whom we have our contacts in our homes and communities, would not that influence have wider boundaries if that same spirit of Christmas good will dominated? I think we can all agree and sincerely say "Best Christmas Wishes."

OTTAWA—A total of 6,222 claims for unemployment insurance benefits were received during October at local offices across Canada, it is announced by the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

This is quite a jump and indicates an increase in unemployment. In September, claims totaled 3,715, and in September of last year, 1,475.

During October the average amount of benefit paid per beneficiary was \$23.10 in October, against \$25.30 in September and \$23.72 in October a year ago.

The average amount paid per compensated day of unemployment was \$1.88 during October, \$1.98 in September and \$1.78 in October, 1943.

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- WHEREVER YOU ARE
- WHATEVER YOU DO

Woodward's  
Merry Christmas

Edmonton

### MAY GOOD TIDINGS

BE YOURS ON CHRISTMAS MORN



### The Management and Staff of

Alberta's Two Natural Gas Utilities

extend to the workers of Alberta and to the readers of The People's Weekly

### Merry Christmas Greetings

and for the New Year, VICTORY and the happier days of Peace.

Edmonton's Gas Company  
Edmonton

The Canadian Western Natural Gas, Light, Heat and Power Co. Ltd., Calgary.

## THE PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

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December 23, 1944

## REACHING A NEW LOW

THE pattern is becoming clear enough for all to see. Its faint outlines were traced about two years ago when a meeting was held in Toronto to plan the campaign to "Stop the C.C.F." This gathering was composed of the "public relations counsels" of Canadian big industry and finance, with some representation from the publicists of American Big Business.

It was at this meeting, about which we received direct information at the time, that the type of smear campaign which we are now experiencing was sketched in its broad outlines.

Not only was the general objective of the scheme planned but the methods of its execution were decided. This was routine work for the chaps who had invented "dishpan hands", a "breath that even your best friend won't tell you about", and "pink tooth brush". It was to be a campaign of fear and smear.

The agencies to be employed were varied. The daily newspapers, with one or two notable exceptions like the *Toronto Star*, could be relied upon to ring the changes on all the chosen words and slogans such as "regimentation", "bureaucracy" and "state socialism". The annual meeting of the banks and corporations were to serve as a sounding board for "warnings" from dignified gentlemen in striped trousers. The politicians of the old parties, always eager to cash in on publicity, would echo the slogans, sometimes giving them a vicious twist of their own.

But in addition to the ordinary instruments of propaganda which were to be used to the full, it was necessary to obtain the services of an agency that could be employed to do the real "dirty work" of the campaign, which would have no inhibitions of honor or decency and which could be expected to descend to any level of falsehood and invective to carry out that phase of the campaign to which the more responsible publicists were not quite prepared to stoop.

If anyone has any doubt about whether or not this vicious phase of the "stop the C.C.F." campaign has begun, let him read the speeches of the Social Credit leaders or the S.C. official paper. No phase of the old "anti-Bolshevik" propaganda of the nineteen-twenties quite reached the depths to which the Social Crediters are descending in their attempt to blacken the character of the C.C.F. and all who are associated with it.

In their determination to destroy the people's political movement which threatens special privilege in this country, the enemies of the C.C.F. have succeeded in obtaining hirings whose actions and utterances have brought Canadian political discussion to a new Low.

## THIS SHOULD BE EXPLAINED

IF a statement made by Hon. J. G. Gardiner the other day is true, there are some men who should be shot forthwith.

Referring to pressure of public opinion on governments Mr. Gardiner said: "Public opinion was never more wrong than when in 1942 it pressed one of the most gallant groups of young men that ever went into battle, into Dieppe just to prove we were not yet ready for a second front."

If this statement of the Minister of Agriculture is true, if men were actually and deliberately sent to their deaths just to prove to a section of public opinion that it was wrong, the men who gave the orders and the government that authorized such callous murder should be punished.

There should be an immediate explanation of Mr. Gardiner's statement.

## TRUE, RESPONSIBLE PATRIOTISM

THROUGHOUT the special session of Parliament the C.C.F. members maintained a position of responsibility and calm seriousness which was a credit alike to them and to our movement. On two occasions they tried to place before Parliament amendments containing the C.C.F. policy of total conscription of manpower, finance and industry. Both amendments were ruled out of order. They made it clear that, in any case, they would support every measure necessary to give our fighting armies trained reinforcements, and demanded the immediate removal of all distinctions between conscripted and volunteer forces.

Of all the political parties in Canada, the C.C.F. would have stood to gain most by an election. Yet Mr. Coldwell and his colleagues in Parliament refused to exploit the crisis for party advantage. They were determined that the conscription issue must not be allowed to destroy our present war effort and our future progress. This is true, responsible patriotism. This is why Mr. Coldwell moved the last amendment which turned the Prime Minister's motion of confidence into a simple declaration "That this House will aid the government in maintaining a vigorous war effort." By accepting the C.C.F. amendment to delete any reference of approval for the government's policy, the Prime Minister admitted his fear that his policies did not have the confidence of Parliament. The C.C.F. supported the motion, only after its amendment was accepted by the House. The C.C.F. has no confidence in the policies of the government which are responsible for the crisis and which have failed so completely to prepare for the post-war. It did not vote for the government, but for a vigorous war effort.

## THE THIRD COLUMN

We will pay \$1.00 each issue for what the editor considers to be the best bit of published news or comment clipped from newspapers or magazines, not to exceed 100 words. Address it to: The Third Column, The People's Weekly, Edmonton.

The London Daily Express, Lord Beaverbrook's paper, whose 3,000,000 circulation makes it one of the largest in the world, has found through a poll conducted among British citizens that the average man-in-the-street favors socialization of key enterprises. On the question of nationalization of coal, the basic raw material produced by Britain, two-thirds of those queried said that the mines should be taken over by the government. 59 per cent took the same view about the railways. The Daily Express frankly admits its disappointment. It had hoped, it said, that "with its huge net sale, that the reasons so cogently advanced in the newspaper would have had some effect in convincing public opinion of the virtues of private enterprise." — The New Leader, New York, Oct. 7, 1944.

Charles L. Oswald of Keuka Park, New Jersey, calls our attention to a recent incident in St. Louis, where seven local hospitals refused admittance to an emergency maternity case, the wife of a sailor. The woman gave birth to twins in the office of St. Louis doctor who, according to a United Press story, claimed the hospitals feared to take the case because if they admitted servicemen's wives attended by other than staff physicians, and accepted the \$50 federal maternity allotment, they would be allowing an entering wedge for socialized medicine. — The New Republic.

"We are not the healthy, young, virile people we always thought we were," declared Dr. J. J. Heagerty, director of public health of the Federal Department of National Welfare, in speaking to a service club in Montreal. "Other countries are leading us in the field of public health and it is time we did something to correct our defects in this important regard." — The Canadian Veteran, November 30, 1944.

Economic Democracy: How obtained—Four methods.

1. Eric Johnson, for Free Enterprise, claims sheer volume of goods gives decent standard of living.
2. Social Credit stands for control of finance by the people as their solution.
3. The Government to fill in gaps where Free Enterprise fails.
4. State Control—its final outcome, that the State would take over every aspect of life.

—From class-room Bulletin for use in Alberta Schools.—King's Printer, Edmonton.

"John Gillese . . . has accepted the editorship of 'The Canadian Social Credit'." In the past six years, he has contributed outstanding FICTION . . . to many national publications. — Canadian Social Credit, October 12, 1944.

Mr. Gillese should find himself at home in editing the fiction supplied him by the Social Credit Publicity Bureau.—P.N.R.M.

Dr. Paul A. Witt, professor of education at Northwestern University makes an inspiring report on the army's effort to educate illiterate and non-English-speaking recruits. He insists that the average man gets what is the equivalent of fourth grade instruction in the reading, speaking, writing, arithmetic, and "withing and arithing," and "withing and arithing." If that can be done by the army, why should we tolerate illiteracy in any part of this country.—Labor.

## The Co-operative Congress in Chicago

By AGNES MACPHAIL, M.P.P.

TORONTO (CPA)—The hearts of all who see brotherhood and plenty emerging from the widespread use of the cooperative philosophy were made glad by the celebration in October of the Centennial in October of this year. The delegates from U.S.A. and Canada, with a few fraternal delegates from South American countries numbered close to 1500.

"It was natural that men should struggle like beasts to get things away from each other when things were scarce," Dr. James P. Warbasse, president emeritus of the Co-operative League, told the convention. "The prevailing economic system grew out of that ancient struggle. But science has added knowledge and methods which now preclude such scarcity. This little ball on which two million people live can feed and clothe and house every one of them in comfort and abundance, if the knowledge and devices in man's possession are employed. Yet the habit of the struggle has become so deeply fixed that men go on contending against one another, and actually destroying the things they need. . . . The minds of men, like their feet, continue in the trodden paths of the

past" But a start in the better way has been made by the common people through co-operation.

Judge Thurman Arnold

For me the outstanding guest speaker was Judge Thurman Arnold of the U.S.A. Court of Appeals, Washington, D.C. "The monopoly stage in the industrial development of a nation is a sign of senility in the economic system, and may have passed on long ago in an individual," the judge told us "It is," he said, "a period of caution, fear and restricted activity. . . . established industry feels itself unable to compete in an equal race with new industry."

"The Co-operatives," said Judge Arnold, "have the opportunity of restoring the highways of commerce to the people."

A symbolic pageant "In the Hearts of Men," with a cast of 169 people taught and entertained us all delightfully on the concluding evening.

Murray Lincoln, president of the Co-operative League and manager of the Ohio Farm Bureau, presided over the Congress.

Seven of the nine directors of the United Farmers Co-operative of Canada attended, of which I was lucky enough to be one.

## Hitler No. 1 on Blacklist

(Continued from Page One)

done for the protection of the men in the line. This they did, in striking contrast to the political sleight of hand of Mackenzie King and the contemptible Tory attempt to make political hay out of the anxious feelings of Canadian parents and relatives for their loved ones overseas.

## Democracy Works

Only 600 people can squeeze into the galleries of the House itself. And newspaper accounts of proceedings in the House are warped, in most sections of the press, by the bias of the publisher or his friends. Nevertheless the tenor of the Parliamentary debates gradually seeps down into the consciousness of the scattered citizens of the country. The lonely vanguard of C.C.F. members, by their persuasive power over the years, and the fine quality of their thinking, slowly built for themselves a prestige in the mind of the man on the street. The C.C.F. stand during this crisis, misrepresented as it will be, will surely win ultimate admiration and thanksgiving.

## C.C.F. Stand

The C.C.F., as you know, put forward its own resolution for total war based on equal service. The Speaker twice ruled it out of order, on very shaky grounds, and as a result other members of the House did not have to declare themselves on it to their immense relief. Later the C.C.F. moved to amend the meaningless resolution of Mackenzie King to make it crystal clear that a "yes" vote for it would not constitute an endorsement of government policy. This amendment, in a great triumph for the C.C.F., was accepted by King and passed by the House.

## Serving Notice on Hitler

The Government's resolution now read: "That the House will help the Government in maintaining a vigorous war effort." All parties had made their positions known; there were sharp disagreements on the reinforcement question and an unbridgeable gulf separated the philosophy of the C.C.F. from the Liberal doctrine. But it was necessary to tell Hitler that he was still number one on the blacklist of the Canadian people; that we were unitedly committed to his destruction. Responsible members of Parliament therefore backed the resolution for a vigorous job to get the facts, ponder them, and decide what could be our war effort; only the anti-war isolationists from Quebec and the

self-righteous Tories from other parts voted against it.

Tory Fog

How did the Tories manage to blunder on this extravagant scale? After all there is a war on. But what else could be expected from a group of men clinging to a barren policy of expediency, a group who are impressive only to the extent that they succeed in concealing their Bay Street mind. The Tories made three whopping errors in the thirteen day session. First they let it out of the bag, in plain words, that they wanted an election now on conscription. How Hitler would welcome that. Secondly, they let it be known that they were ready to form a government, which would include Bracken, McTague, Henry Borden, and Macdonald of the National Trust, not one of whom had been elected. Thirdly, they actually voted against a vigorous war effort, blinded for a moment, by their own patriotic politics.

## Liberal "Baby"

What about the Liberals? This crisis was their baby. Theirs had been the planlessness, the inequality of sacrifice, the conservative view of the war, causes which brought on the crisis.

For days the Liberals bobbed about like a cork on a sea of political uncertainties. Their answer to the call for reinforcements seems to have been dictated from purely political considerations rather than by the actual needs of the troops. Certainly General Macdonald lost a lot of prestige when he accepted office to carry out the voluntary plan and then reversed himself a few days later.

The compromising Order in Council of the Government, in Mr. Coldwell's words, "looks less than adequate and certainly is not statesmanlike." The whole policy of "conserving men to volunteer" is not only inefficient, but downright hypocritical. King hopes to tell Quebec, when the writs are issued, that the men sent overseas were volunteers, even though many volunteered on their way up the gangplank.

## The Outlook

Liberal political fortunes are shattered. The Tories are on the way out. This crisis has laid a grave responsibility on the C.C.F. When the election comes the C.C.F. will, if we fight, return more members than any other party. In that event, as in the past, the C.C.F. will be equal to its opportunities.



# With the CCF Across Canada

## MARITIMES

Fearful of the growing power of the C.C.F., the Liberal government of Nova Scotia will call an election early in the year although only three of its five years in office will have expired. This is the opinion of political observers who base their belief upon the mounting indications of pre-election activity in Liberal circles—activity of the type which takes place when voting day is a few months away. It is believed that the Liberal plan is to telescope the provincial and federal elections into the late winter and early spring months, with hope of forcing the C.C.F. to spread its election funds thinly over the two campaigns.

Claude P. Milton, provincial president of New Brunswick has been nominated to contest the Westmorland constituency in the coming federal election. P. Frank K. Coates, an R.C.A.F. veteran of the battle of Britain who returned to Canada last spring, has been nominated in the Royal federal constituency.

Charlie Gillis, M.P., is conducting a provincial tour in New Brunswick which will keep him in that province until Christmas.

## MANITOBA

Alex. M. Brown, druggist and well known business man of Brandon, has been nominated as the C.C.F. candidate in Brandon federal constituency. A veteran of the First Great War, 52 years of age, Mr. Brown was born in Angus, Scotland, and has been president of every Scottish organization in Brandon. He is a past president of the Rotary Club and president of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical association. He has also served on the Brandon school board.

## SASKATCHEWAN

A well balanced program of study has now been lined up for the C.C.F. winter school, which will be held during the first two weeks in January. Six schools will be operated this year.

"Probably 75 per cent of the Canadian forces in Britain support the C.C.F.," L.A.C. Vallau, newly-elected M.L.A. for the armed forces, said during a brief address to the National C.C.Y.M. convention in Montreal.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

Five constituencies in British Columbia have raised 43 per cent of their Victory Fund objectives, bringing the total to date to \$32,544.36.

There is no single valid reason why the franchise cannot be granted to the East Indians in British Columbia at the coming session of the legislature, stated Arthur Turner, M.L.A., acting provincial C.C.F. secretary, in a statement released recently. Mr. Turner was replying to Attorney General R. L. Maitland's answer to representatives of B.C. East Indians who were requesting a consideration of their plea for full franchise rights. Mr. Maitland had answered that "because 50,000 of our best people (meaning those in the armed forces) are away, this is no time to change a policy which was settled and accepted in this province 50 years ago." Turner described Maitland's answer as "the weakest of all possible excuses for cloaking a definitely reactionary and undemocratic state of mind. Such an attitude can only be that of those whose thinking was settled and finished about the same time."

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## CCF NEWS

### ALBERTA NOMINATIONS

Acadia—Jack Sutherland  
Athabasca—John M. Wagner  
Battle River—Henry E. Spencer.  
Bow River—J. H. Caldwell  
Calgary East—P. N. E. Morrison.  
Calgary West—Dr. D. A. MacKenzie.  
Camrose—Flt.-Lt. Chester A. Ranning  
Edmonton East—Ald. H. D. Ainlay  
Edmonton West—Miss Mary R. Crawford  
Jasper—Edson — F.O. Harry C. Irvine  
Lethbridge—W. W. Scott  
Macleod—O. E. Wobick  
Medicine Hat—E. W. Smith  
Peace River—V. MacLellan  
Red Deer—A. E. MacLellan  
Wetaskiwin—Wilbert Stevens

### LUSCAR

Congratulations, Luscar, on the formation of a local C.C.F. Club with Mr. Ted Cowling as president and Mrs. Fania Guenette as secretary. Do not hesitate to call upon Central Office for any help you might require in the furtherance of your activities.

### ATTENTION VERMILION

The Vermilion Provincial Constituency annual convention will be held at the Elk's Hall at Manville on Thursday, January 4th, commencing at 1 p.m. Mr. J. E. Cook, President of the Alberta C.C.F., will address this convention. Every member is urged to be in attendance.

### BATTLE RIVER

The federal riding of Battle River will hold a federal conference at Vermilion on Friday, January 5th. Provincial constituency officers from Vermilion, Wainwright and Alexandra together with the federal officers for Battle River are asked to make a special effort to attend this meeting. Also those members who are anxious to go to work are urged to attend this conference.

### VEGREVILLE

The federal constituency of Vegreville will hold a conference on Saturday, January 6th, at Vegreville to discuss the problems of federal organization. The officers of the provincial constituencies of Vegreville, Willingdon, Redwater and Clover Bar together with the federal officers for the Vegreville federal constituency are asked to attend. Also those members who are anxious to assist with the work of building the C.C.F. organization are urged to attend this conference.

### C.C.F. VIOLIN QUARTETTE

Edmonton C.C.F. at its meeting on December 12 at which W. J. Williams, Secretary-Treasurer of the Edmonton Branch of the Canadian Legion, spoke also heard pleasing violin numbers by a quartette from the C.C.F. Music Group under the direction of Mrs. Fred White. The treasurer's report presented by Tom Truscott, showed a small balance on hand. Referring to the action of the Edmonton Hospital Board in proposing increased rates to go into effect the first of the year, Ald. H. D. Ainlay expressed his opposition to such a move.

### NAME COMMITTEES

Lloydminster. A meeting of the joint Alberta and Saskatchewan C.C.F. local was held in Lloydminster December 14, with Mr. J.

## 25,000 PEOPLE, IN SASK. TO GET FREE MEDICAL SERVICES

REGINA.—(YMR) — At least 25,000 people in Saskatchewan will be eligible to receive free medical and hospital care after January 1st, J. S. White, deputy minister of social welfare, has disclosed. Government officials are working night and day to perfect the plan which will make free treatment available to old age pensioners and their spouses, blind pensioners and their spouses, blind dependent children, women in receipt of mother's allowances and their dependent children, and children who are wards of the government.

The plan will provide ordinary medical services including hospitalization and surgical treatment when approved by the department of public health, as well as certain specified drugs.

The whole idea of health service plan will come under the general supervision of the department of public health, but the actual administration will be done by a committee of three members known as the Medical Advisory Committee. The committee will be made up of the minister of public health. This committee will authorize the payment of all accounts, and will determine whether or not a person requires hospitalization or operational treatment. They will also recommend a list of drugs and prescriptions which will be made available to the beneficiaries. Except in emergency cases, hospitalization must be authorized by the Medical Advisory Committee before the patient is admitted to hospital.

It is not the intention of the government at this time, Mr. White said, to provide nursing home care for people who only require this

Stephens in the chair. Four committees were appointed, namely: Housing committee to locate a permanent place to hold meetings; Finance committee, to raise necessary funds; Highways committee, to keep in touch with minister of highways; and Motor Vehicle committee. It was decided to meet regularly every second Thursday. The Secretary was directed to send in the following resolution to the Minister of Education at Regina: That this Lloydminster Local of the C.C.F. strongly recommends that the ratepayers in each school district be allowed to decide on the Larger School Unit before being put into effect.

### M. FJELSTAD, President

Pembina C.C.F. Board elected M. Fjelstad, Dapp, president, at a recent meeting when it chose R. White, Shoal Creek, as vice-president and Mrs. Bruce Peacock, Pibroch, Secretary-Treasurer. Other members elected to the Board were: Leroy Krischer, Arvilla, Bruce Peacock, Pibroch; Tom Weeks, Barrehead; Mr. Forsen, Clyde; Mrs. McGinnis, Eastburg; T. G. Harden, Barrehead; Alex Weir, Linaria; Tom Terry, Moss side.

At a meeting of the C.C.F. Constituency Council held at the home of Mrs. L. Harden, at Mellowdale on December 10, a report of the provincial convention at Calgary was ably given by the president, Mr. Fjelstad. Mr. Paterson also gave an interesting account of his trip to the Red Deer nominating convention, to the National Convention at Montreal and also his visit to Ottawa.

Plans were made for future meetings to be addressed by Mrs. Nellie Peterson and J. E. Cook, president of the Alberta C.C.F.

## Christmas Greetings

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Broadcasts are given every Friday from CJCA by the C.C.F. federal candidate. Your contribution will help to ensure the continuance of these broadcasts. The following donations are acknowledged:

Wm. Soppit	4.00
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Mrs. W. A. Lind	1.00
Mrs. Christofferson	1.00
A. P. Hanson	3.63
Roy Sward	2.00
Mr. Drouin	1.00
John Brosch	1.00

## SCORE ANTI UNION STAND S. C. PAPER

(By Special Correspondent)

CALGARY.—A resolution condemning the reactionary stand of the "Canadian Social Creditor" as being an insult to organized labor and contrary to trade union principles was passed at a meeting of the Trades and Labor Council on December 15.

It was stated in the October 12 issue of the "Canadian Social Creditor" that "The Saskatchewan government has highlighted the fact they are giving printing contracts on an equal basis but only to union printers. We say that non-union printers should not be penalized. After all, the hallmark of modern civilization should be individual freedom. If a printer does not want to join a union why should his work suffer? The CCF policy smacks of tribal policy of the stone age days in modern dress."

It was pointed out that the Council makes representations to use only union-made products and encourages its members to support only union shops and buy only union made goods. This statement of the "Canadian Social Creditor" was of concern to every union man and woman in Calgary, the delegates maintained.

The stand of Britain in its relations with Greece was also criticized at the meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be on January 15, when resolutions for the new executive will be made. The annual meeting of the Council will be held January 28.

type of service. Present hospital facilities will not make this possible. The plan as it goes into effect on January 1st is only designed to supply the medical needs of persons receiving pensions or allowances, and is restricted to residents of Saskatchewan.

## GOVT.-OWNED WOOLLEN MILL TO EMPLOY OVER 40

REGINA.—(YMR) — Approximately 40 workers will be given employment in the new government-owned and operated woollen mill at Moose Jaw, it was announced by Natural Resources Minister J. L. Phelps. Five of these will require special training, but the others will be able to acquire the necessary skill on the job, where they will work on eight-hour shifts.

It is expected that the main market outlet in the initial period at least, will be found in Western Canada, with arrangements already made for disposal of a considerable proportion of the output on the prairies. The plant will use Saskatchewan wool, and will produce blankets, machine cloth, ladies' coatings, men's shirtings, hand-knitting, rug yarns, material for quilts and comforters and yarns for home handicrafts.

### For Social Services

The warehouse formerly occupied by Macdonalds (Consolidated Ltd.), at Moose Jaw has been purchased for \$80,000, and total cost of the industrial venture is expected to be close to \$125,000. Present intention is to have the plant in operation by next spring. Earnings of the mill, said Mr. Phelps, will be used to expand social services in Saskatchewan.

J. V. Clement, American textile mill consultant, has made a survey of wool industry possibilities in Saskatchewan, and will supervise purchase and installation of machinery, as well as guide the mill into production and make sure a competent manager is provided. Preliminary work on the project, which has been thoroughly investigated, was done by H. W. Monahan, of the industrial development branch of the Natural Resources Department.

Better woollens at fair prices for consumers, and higher returns to wool producers, were cited as benefits by Mr. Phelps.

## TOMYN NOMINATED BY VEGREVILLE CCF

Michael Tomyn, Principal of the Royal Park School, was unanimously nominated to contest the Vegreville federal riding at an enthusiastic and representative convention of the C.C.F. federal constituency association on Saturday.

Ald. H. D. Ainlay and Mr. Tomyn addressed a well-attended public meeting in the evening.

Mr. Tomyn is deeply interested in community problems and has lived on the farm and among farmers all his life. Every summer he relieves the labor shortage on farms in the Vegreville district by harvesting and stacking, or by assisting with carpenter work.

He has been active in organization work in the constituency and at present is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Vegreville Provincial riding.

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# The Quebec Attitude to CONSCRIPTION

**Editor's Note:** Because many Canadians are anxious to know something of the background responsible for Quebec's attitude toward conscription, the Co-operative Press Association has asked Mr. Laroche to explain the views of the average Quebec French-Canadian on the conscription issue.)

By FRANÇOIS R. LAROCHE,  
C.C.F. National Vice-Chairman

The attitude of the French-Canadians towards conscription is unexplained and mostly misinterpreted by a large number of Canadians of other provinces.

There are many fundamental reasons for the French-Canadian opposition to conscription.

First of all, the Canadians of French descent have no sentimental foreign allegiance and think of Canada as their only mother country, so any war that is fought elsewhere is to them a foreign war.

The precedent that was created in 1898 in sending Canadians to fight in the South African war, our spontaneous declaration of war in 1914, as soon as England entered it, appear sufficient proof to the people of Quebec that when England is at war we are, and only for that.

The discriminative way in which conscription was applied in 1917, which has been proven from many sources, namely in the "Memoirs" of Sir Robert Borden has left a bad taste in their mouth.

## 25 Years Propaganda

Since the last war, all political parties in the Province of Quebec, including the Conservatives, pledged themselves to no conscription. Our present Prime Minister, Mr. King, made many solemn declarations to that effect when we declared war and since. No serious attempt has been made, until those last few weeks, to make the people of Quebec realize the seriousness of the situation in Europe.

One cannot expect to offset twenty-five years of propaganda and pledges, in three weeks.

The blundering of the great

powers in international politics after the last war, their selfishness and lack of honest co-operation between themselves which led to the present war, is another of the reasons, for the want of enthusiasm about the war in Quebec.

## Economic Reasons

There are also economic and sentimental reasons. Practically all large industries in the Province of Quebec are owned by English-Canadians or Americans, and the managements are English speaking. In most cases, salaries are lower in Quebec than in other provinces for the same work. During the depression, there were more people on relief in proportion to the population than in other industrialized provinces like Ontario and British Columbia, and they were receiving less.

A survey made shortly before the war showed that French-Canadians received only 11% of the salaries paid in the civil service, whereas they represent more than 30% of the population of the country. During the war, the situation has not improved and French-Canadian representation on the different boards set up by the government is practically nil. One example is the War Assets Corporation in which there is not a single officer who is French-Canadian.

## Bad Effects

The failure of Canada to adopt its own official flag and national anthem and the vestiges of colonialism that remain in our constitution coupled with public declarations by some of our public men, have had very bad effects in Quebec towards their brother Canadians in the other provinces.

When a man like R. B. Bennett, who was born in Canada, and received everything from his country, honors and fortune, said, at a farewell banquet given him prior to his departure for England, "I am going home," and another former prime minister of this country, Arthur Meighen, answered, "I envy you"; it was generally in-

terpreted in Quebec as a complete lack of patriotism on the part of men who are supposed, by their standing to represent English-Canadians in this country.

The declaration of Mr. Halsey, the present minister of finance, in the House of Commons in 1940, "that he was not particularly concerned with the security of Canada when the security of the whole Empire was in danger," did not help the French-Canadians feel that there was a truly Canadian sentiment in the other provinces.

## Education Needed

These few explanations should help Canadians of other provinces understand the reasons for the anti-conscription feeling in the province of Quebec, and make them realize the urgent need of economic readjustments and of education, all over our country, if we are to achieve that national unity, without which we cannot prosecute a vigorous war effort and solve the problems that will face us after victory is won.

## No Rod-Riding for Returned Men This Time - - -

(Continued from Page One)

work in Edmonton—the beginning of the new order—they had been hearing so much about.

Born in Wales where he came to regard Keir Hardie as "the finest man that ever lived," Mr. Williams said that he had been in the people's movement for the past 30 years. He did not expect anything from the Tories and he was disgusted with the present government. "There is only one party which I believe holds out any hope for the future," he said when he reminded his C.C.F. audience that his views lay in the same direction as their own inasmuch as he said, "we all believe that the people should have a fair share of the wealth they produce."

## Denounces King Government

He denounced Prime Minister King's handling of the reinforcement situation with the resultant disunity as the price paid for retaining his government in power. The men overseas, he said, would never support a government of this character. He predicted that not more than two or three thousand reserve army men would be sent overseas but that G.S. personnel would be recruited to provide the much needed reinforcements through the simple process of reviving their conscription. The casualties had been heavy since D-Day, he said, but they could have been kept down if our armies overseas had been provided with the proper reinforcements. "Any government that puts party interests ahead of the good of the country is not fit to rule," he declared, in warning that a "day of retribution was coming."

He expressed his appreciation of Mr. Coldwell's attitude on the question of reinforcements. In referring to the conscription changes about of the Labor Progressive Party, he said they were "a mystery to everyone but themselves."

## Onus on Men

Mr. Williams deplored the fact that the insurance principle had been deleted from the Pensions Act. A man has now got to prove to the authorities that an accident or disease occurred in the course of his duties. Mr. Williams pointed out that a small proportion of the men discharged as medically unfit are granted pensions.

According to statistics published in the Canada Year Book, 76,751 men were granted disability awards in the First World War at a total cost of \$26,882,121 together with 17,860 dependants at a cost of \$10,415,622, making a total of \$37,297,743 as at Nov. 30, 1943. In the present war out of some 90,

000 discharged as at November 30, 1943, only 5,950 were granted disability awards and 3,933 dependants for a total cost of \$5,041,791.

He told of a case that had just come to his attention where a stomach ulcer condition was diagnosed as pre-war and the man was faced with a bill for over \$600 for treatment. There was nothing wrong with the Pensions Act itself, Mr. Williams declared but local authorities seemed to be obsessed with the idea of keeping costs down. It was very difficult for the men to produce evidence to support their case and it was most unfair he said that the onus of proof should be on the soldiers.

## No Jobs

If a returned man did not desire to take vocational training, few jobs were available except in packing plants. With very few exceptions men receiving their discharge from the army, are medically unfit and are not in any shape to undertake heavy work in the bush or packing plants. If they cannot secure a pension their only alternative is to apply for unemployment benefits. Young men needed the government credit grants to re-establish themselves but they resented the fact that they lost these grants if they signified their willingness to enroll in a vocational

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## LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Officers, Meetings, etc., of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province

### EDMONTON

Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America, No. 314—Meets second Wednesday in Labor Hall, 1212 6th Street; Vice-President, D. O. Roberts, 9611 13rd Avenue; Recording Secretary, J. E. Smith, 10747 76th Avenue; Shop Delegate, F. J. White, 11016 87th Street; Distributors' Delegate, F. E. Smart, 11216 65th Street; Secretary, J. Flower, 10832 76th Street; Phone 71997.

Carpenters and Joiners, No. 1325, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, No. 314—Meets Friday, President, W. D. McAllister, 9585 47 Ave.; Vice-Pres., W. S. Stanton, 12066 84 St.; Fin. Sec., D. D. Polard, 9328 101 Ave.; Rec. Sec., Chas. J. Blatz, 10229 107 St.; Treasurer, J. A. S. Smith, 11882 95A St.; Conductors, 11882 95A St.; Warden, G. R. Frowse, 9515 109 Ave.; Trustees, J. M. Henning, 11808 98 St., D. R. Blair, 100 St., C. W. Benard, 11828 87 St.

Fire Fighters, No. 209, International Association of Fire Fighters, No. 2 Fire Hall, President, C. E. Marriott, 11018 123 Street, Phone 23573; Secretary-Treasurer, J. Stanton, 11432 96 Street, Phone 72741.

Garment Workers of America, No. 120, United—Meets second Wednesday in each month in Labor Hall, President, Mrs. Adele Cox, 10556 97th Street; Recording Secretary, Mrs. K. Harpaul, 6401 118th Avenue.

Railway Carmen No. 448, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen—Meets every month in Labor Hall, President, J. E. Anderson, Suite 15, Tipton Bldg.; Rec. Sec., C. W. Kyrle, Treasurer, T. W. Harling, Box 154, Calgary, Alberta.

### CALGARY

Electrical Workers Union—Local B 348, International Brotherhood of—Meets in Labor Temple, 210 Eleventh Avenue East, Calgary, President, Andrew Park; Secretary, E. O. Finnell; Financial Secretary, F. W. Kyrle, Treasurer, T. W. Harling, Box 154, Calgary, Alberta.

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## OVERSEAS M.L.A. WITH COLDWELL



LAC Delmar Vallean, Overseas M.L.A. of the Saskatchewan Legislature, representing the No. 1 Area of Britain and Western Europe, and M. J. Coldwell, M.P., CCF National Leader, during the CCF National Convention in Montreal. LAC Vallean is now in Regina on a month's leave conferring with the Cabinet.

## Down Payment on Peace

Continued from Page One

imperfect world," he said. "The proposals made here must be regarded simply as a down payment on peace, and the nations must be expected to keep up the other payments. Nevertheless it would be madness to sap the foundations already laid, and tear down the structure already erected because it is not the finished mansion of peace."

Canada and peace-loving nations of her stature, should be given greater authority on the proposed Security Council, he contended.

He drew attention to the fact that under the present Dumbarton Oaks proposals Canada, a leader among the secondary nations, might be directed to sever trading

relations with, or supply armed forces to fight against, some future aggressor, without having had the opportunity of participating in the decision reached. Lesser states, with little trade, and no armed help, have as great an influence as the strong secondary states, he said.

For two good reasons these strong secondary nations should be better represented on the Security Council. In the first place, he suggested that the Security Council must have immediate, and adequate force at its disposal, and it will lack such decisive force unless nations are represented in accordance with the contribution they will be called upon to make to world peace.

Secondly, it was important that

the strong secondary nations, which will be called upon for vital assistance against an aggressor, should be able to vote on the decision reached. That is a fundamental of responsible government, he maintained, and the Canadian government, or that of any other democratic state has an obligation to its electorate. We cannot march to fight or sever economic relations, on the direction of a Council in which we were denied a voice.

## Asks Full Publicity

Mr. Coldwell emphasized that the Great Powers are to be above the law itself, they must nevertheless be prepared to have any disputes in which they are engaged openly debated and scrutinized in the Assembly of the Nations. World opinion must be given a chance to judge; full publicity must be accorded.

"I would say that the Dumbarton Oaks' agreement must be understood to preclude a world cut up into conflicting spheres of influence," he said. "The stated premise of the Conference was, 'the sovereign equality of all peace-loving states.' Whether a nation wishes to swim in the orbit of one Great Power, or that of another, or whether it wishes to be on its own is a matter for its own people to decide. Big-power intervention to shape the policies or control the personnel of the governments of smaller states is contrary to the letter and spirit of Dumbarton Oaks."

## Policing the Policemen

"We are not confronted, then, with the best of all plans in the best of all possible worlds. There are sharp limits to this law-enforcing system. Wars between smaller states may be outlawed, and that is necessary and desirable, but such wars have always been brought to an end when the Great Powers will peace. But no way has yet been found of policing the policemen."

"For this and other reasons I plead that special emphasis be placed upon the proposed Economic and Social Council. We must attack the chronic causes of war. The danger is that this Council will be neglected, an orphan stepchild of the nations."

"International peace begins at home," he stressed. "Nations living prosperously and freely-organized in their political, social and economic life, will never break the peace or spawn Hitler's of their own. If there is an arch-enemy of peace in the world today it is the recurrent menace of mass unemployment."

"Mass unemployment drives nations to look abroad, unable to distribute their wealth at home, their banks choked with investment funds seeking an outlet. It is the cause of which economic barriers and rivalries among nations are the ugly expression."

## Full Employment

"Nations must turn progressively to full employment and all-out production through the techniques of democratic planning. And, in the international sphere, there must be corresponding planning, in trade, currency, investment, communications and raw material allocation, through public agencies responsible to the people."

"Who can underestimate the dangerous possibilities of oil, for example, if it is not distributed fairly, and publicly, in accordance with national needs?"

"The Economic and Social Council must foster, coordinate and guide the specialized social, economic and humanitarian agencies that must be called into being to handle problems extending far beyond national frontiers."

"These agencies, such as UNRRA, the ILO, the food and monetary organizations, and others to come, are stepping-stones to lasting peace. Working together they can relieve the tensions which will otherwise find release in war."

Mr. Coldwell declared that "Naked police power cannot create the organic world society in which peace can live. In a changing world, peace is a continuous process. If we push back the frontiers in health, nutrition, education and labor standards, all over the world, we shall find that we have, incidentally, built a lasting peace."



Edmonton again has a symphony orchestra. The hearts of all citizens who crowded the Empire theatre last Sunday night glowed with pride at this achievement. For an achievement it truly is—to have brought together in these days of stress and strenuous striving for everyone, this large body of musicians for the performance of symphonic music. The conductor Mr. A. Fratkin, well-known violinist and conductor of Edmonton received warm and continued applause from the audience upon his appearance and at the conclusion of each number. He kept fine control of the musicians playing at all times—a truly musical and agreeable reading was given to Haydn's "clock" symphony, two overtures, Strauss' "Blue Danube" waltz, the "Midsummer's Night" Serenade by Albeniz and the Tchaikovsky ever popular "Andante Cantabile" from the Quartet in D.

The latter number was particularly well chosen since the orchestra possesses a string tone that is admirable. "As yet," said Mr. Fratkin, "We haven't sufficient French Horns and woodwind tone. We need even more support from the public to procure these instruments. We have the players right now." We wish the orchestra every success in procuring this need.

Mr. William Smith sang with a fine lusty voice the recitative aria, "Comfort Ye" from Handel's "Messiah". In the second number "The Dream" from "Manon" he was not in as good vocal form—in a selection which makes exacting demands upon any voice. His songs added great enjoyment to an evening of good music.

Mr. Uninsky, pianist, who gave the third of the celebrity series of recitals recently, proved surprisingly good. We say surprisingly advisedly, as he represents another of the list of recitalists on this season's roster of celebrity offerings, who is as yet little known in this country.

Mr. Fred Gee, Winnipeg impresario, who conducts the Celebrity concerts, spoke during an intermission. He offered many artists names for next year's season—and many "ohs" and "ahs" followed the pronouncement of such artists as Pinza and Giannini. We would all be very grateful if these latter mentioned artists could be brought to Edmonton.

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Miss Eva. O. Howard will direct the comedy "The Late Christopher Bean" with which the Edmonton Little Theatre will open its season in the New Empire Theatre on Boxing Day. The box office will be open December 20 to 26.

Miss Howard never chooses a second-rate play. She prefers a classic, a famous play by a famous author or at least something with high aesthetic value. Her students never have to memorize trash; nevertheless the houses for school shows are sold out. Standing room only and people turned away are customary on the last night of the Vic play. "The Late Christopher Bean" was the Vic production in 1934 when Miss Gwen Seller played the leading role, the original Abbie. Edmonton can be sure of a fine show on Boxing Day.

London—Home Secretary Herbert Morrison has regained the seat he lost last year on the Labor party executive and another new member will be Aneurin Bevan, Welsh miner and bitter government critic in the commons, it was announced Tuesday.

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By LORNE INGLE

WHILE there have been terrible blunders on both sides, the trouble in Greece has by no means been caused by precipitate action on the part of hot-headed leaders of the resistance movement. Its roots go back into pre-war Greek history.

Greece has long been saddled with a feudal social system headed by a high bureaucracy of army officers, wealthy merchants, landowners, etc. under the leadership of the king. In 1936 the present king aided General John Metaxas to set up one of the most repressive dictatorships in Europe. Metaxas' chief instrument of power during his rule was the ruthless police force built up by his minister of the interior, the Greek Himmler, Maniadhakis.

When the Germans overran Greece, these police found no ideological difficulties in carrying out, without much change in method, the instructions of their new Nazi masters.

But the proud spirit of independence was not easily suppressed in the Greek people. Out of Greece's rocky hills arose the Popular Resistance movement.

the E.A.M. and its fighting arm the ELAS, the EDAS, and the KKE—spreading across Greece like prairie fires. Faced with this new menace the Nazi organized the infamous quailing Security Battalions to send against the Resistance forces. The resulting battles and guerrilla fighting continued until the British troops landed.

Greek people have not by any means forgotten that these police and security battalions aided the Germans in their worst atrocities, and they would rather go down under British guns than accept any regime which rightly or wrongly maintains, unpunished, the leaders and members of these hated organizations in positions of dominance over them.

Back with the British troops to Greece came the government of Premier Papandreou, appointed by the king with the sanction of the British Government. The leaders of the Resistance undertook to cooperate with Papandreou, until free elections could be held. It was not long, however, before they discovered what sort of a government they were working with. When they asked that the Security Battalions be disbanded and the quislings and traitors punished, they were told that the Security Battalions were not to be disbanded or disarmed at all. The hated police were to be left untouched. The government quite evidently intended to take advantage of its position to entrench firmly in power the collaborators, reactionaries and quislings. On the other hand, Papandreou issued an ultimatum to the Resistance forces to hand over their arms.

The Greeks then did what any other red-blooded people would do in similar circumstances. They had fought too hard and endured too much to give up the battle now. They protested. They organized strikes. They held demonstrations. They sought in every possible way to let their feelings be known. The government, backed by Britain, only reiterated the demand that they give up their arms. Quite understandably, they refused.

On Sunday, December 3rd, a crowd, consisting mainly of young people, boys and girls and women, gathered in an Athens square to hold a protest meeting. They carried flags—the Union Jack, the Communist Hammer and Sickle, the Stars and Stripes, and the blue and white Greek Ensign. They had no arms. But Police Chief Ebert overhauled ordered his Nazi-trained men to fire. An eye-witness gives this account, "Apparently the police went mad. The people, in their anguish, yelled, 'Death to the Fascists' as boys and girls fell dead or wounded in heaps. The whole thing was a nightmare."

During the whole terrible episode British troops stood by watching the slaughter.

This side of the story was deliberately omitted when Churchill, attempting to justify his actions before an aroused British public, cried that Britain would not tolerate "a gang of men from the mountains" overthrowing the legitimate constitutional authority in Greece by violence. I say deliberately omitted, for this part of the story is surely known to Churchill and it is not likely that he so easily forgot who fired the first shots and the circumstances under which they were fired.

His actions stem, of course, from the old conservative fear of left wing movements in Europe. This same fear was behind the "non-intervention" in Spain, the treachery of Munich and the folly of appeasement. He tries to excuse his actions by applying the criterion of "legitimacy" in government. As someone has said the European governments which existed in 1939 have the title deeds of continuity and legitimacy—but empty documents they are.

Who, after all, are the more "legitimate" leaders—those who fled, or those who stayed behind in their country and fought, sharing the hardships of their humble countrymen?

Well might it be asked by free men everywhere, "If this isn't a war against Nazism and Fascism, what is it?"

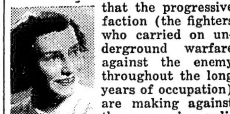
## YOUTH TOMORROW

BY THE C.C.Y.M. - THE YOUTH SECTION OF THE C.C.F.

Miss Barbara Davidson, Editor  
Box 512, Edmonton



EVER since the recapture of France, Greece, and the Lowlands, the internal situation in these countries has come very much to the forefront of international affairs. Recently the struggle in Greece has made newspaper headlines. The fight



that the progressive faction (the fighters who carried on underground warfare against the enemy throughout the long years of occupation) are making against the repressive policies of the old reactionaries, and against Allied interference, merits the sympathy of every liberal-minded man and woman. That may be too long a mental stride for those who believe that Churchill can do no wrong. At least it must be apparent to them that the question of how to achieve peace in post-war Europe can no longer be settled by mouthing a few well-worn platitudes.

The problems that are going to arise in every country will be overwhelmingly difficult to solve. It is essential that we should understand these problems and know just what is involved. The interests of socialists and other leftist groups the world over are fundamentally the same. We are all fighting for the same thing, and we must remember that. We ought to be concerned with what is happening in Greece. We must en-

deavor to see the picture behind the newspaper story. The study of international affairs is important and a subject that the CCYM should not neglect.

## Camrose

The Camrose CCYM held another dance on December 1. Although not a great financial success everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

An important business meeting was held at the President's home on December 5. Those present decided that Miss Frances Mjølness would certainly be their choice for provincial organizer, and that in addition to organizing work the C.C.F. donation could be spent to great advantage on radio broadcasts. The Secretary, Elmer Bergh, gave an account of what took place at the C.C.F. Convention much to the interest of all.

Quite a little discussion took place about producing a play and they have hopes that when Eric Ness attends the executive meeting, some sort of play might be obtained. Refreshments were served by their host and they left with the promise that the college boys would bring in three new members and so would the high school members. More news of this club next year.

On her return trip from Vancouver, Doris French, our newly-elected national president, will spend two days in this province. She will arrive in Calgary, January 11, and during her stay there hopes to meet many of the Alberta C.C.Y.M. members.

Until her recent election as national C.C.Y.M. president, Doris French was holding office as provincial president of the Saskatchewan C.C.Y.M. Immediately following her trip to British Columbia and Alberta, Doris will be leaving for Ottawa to take up C.C.F. and CCYM duties there. With both our national president and national secretary at headquarters in Ottawa, the CCYM work in Canada will undoubtedly move forward during 1945.

Watch this corner for further notice of meetings in Calgary. You will want to take this opportunity of meeting your national president.

F.M.

## Ask Democratic

(Continued from Page One)

Following statement has been issued by the C.C.F. National Executive:

"The C.C.F. is gravely concerned at the lack of a clear democratic policy toward countries formerly occupied by the Axis powers. The present situation in Italy, Greece and elsewhere shows a lack of support for the democratic people's movements and a readiness to impose, even by force, unpopular or discredited elements for reasons of power politics. It also indicates apparent disagreement among the major powers, which is fraught with danger for the future peace of the world.

"At its recent National Convention, the C.C.F. stated that the United Nations policy toward liberated countries should ensure the punishment of fascist rulers and all collaborators, and provide co-operation with democratic people's movements rather than with discredited monarchs and reactionary forces. We believe that this is the policy favored by the majority of Canadians.

"In view of the part played by the Canadian people in this war and their contribution to the common cause, they have a vital interest in seeing that the democratic purposes of the war are fulfilled. Canada must insist on her right to express her views on matters vital to the future welfare of the world.

"The C.C.F. therefore calls upon the Canadian Government to press for the immediate formulation of a proper United Nations policy to secure the establishment of democratic institutions in all liberated countries."

## CCYM CONTACT

Prospective members are invited to write the CCYM Secretary, for information regarding the program of this Young People's Movement. Inquiries should be addressed to Mrs. Marjorie Brown, 11209 71 St., Edmonton. Phone 71921.

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TUESDAY (Boxing Day), December 26th. Last trolley coaches leave 101st Street and Jasper at 2:00 a.m. Last street cars at 2:00 a.m.

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